









Indians, pointing out the immense commercial interests of Great Britain in the Gulf, and emphasising the desire of the Government for the best relations with Persia.

**Lifting the Veil in Somaliland.**  
London, November 29.—The General Manning, with the 1st Infantry Brigade and three companies of Mounted Infantry, left Balak on the 11th instant on a forced march, and reached Galdhi on the 16th instant. Galdhi was found to be unoccupied, and the wells low. The object of the dash was to prevent a hostile force occupying the wells. Colonel Manning has been left there with an adequate garrison provisioned until the 1st January. General Manning returns to Balak on the 1st instant. The 1st Infantry Brigade, in returning to Balak, encountered 220 Dervish raiders, and killed six, besides capturing 3,000 stock.

**A Milder Russian Regime.**  
Calcutta, November 22.—The London correspondent of the *Indian Daily Telegraph* says the changes in the Russian diplomatic service indicate the inauguration of a milder regime. It is reported that M. de Witte will supersede M. Plehve on account of the alleged responsibility of the latter for the Kishineff massacres.

**Trade Reform for India.**  
Calcutta, November 27.—The Bengal Chamber of Commerce is collecting the views of members on the proposal to introduce a Trade Marks Bill for India.

**The Baghdad Railway.**  
London, November 27.—A company, with a capital of three million marks, has been formed at Frankfurt to construct the Baghdad Railway, which is the first section of the Baghdad railway.

**The Hottentot Trouble.**  
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November 26.—The American Senate has ratified a treaty permitting Zanzibar to place a small tax on American vessels for the upkeep of lighthouses and harbours.

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November 20.—The Army Settlements Committee on the 20th ultimo led to an open conflict between the Austrian and Hungarian Premiers. Count Tisza, in his speech, described the speech of Herr Fischer in the Reichstag regarding the treaty, which offended Hungarian sentiment as the attitude of a distinguished politician to which no importance need be attached. Herr Fischer, on the other hand, said that the treaty was a purely technical matter, and should be treated as such.

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**France and the New Panama Republic.**  
Alhambra, November 26.—The *France* London correspondent telegraphs that M. Delcasse has declared that the extension of the Panama concession to the French Company from 1904 to 1910 is contingent on the French Republic offering to continue the extension. The Republic had, therefore, no course but to enter into relations with the new Republic.

**Ceylon Tea and New Zealand.**  
London, November 20.—The New Zealand Preferential Tariff Bill has passed the Council, and will be enforced immediately. It provides for the removal of the duty on tea grown in British dominions.

**Obituary.**  
London, November 22.—The deaths are announced of H. H. Prince Dietrich Saltykoff, Mr. John Penn, Conservative M.P. for Lewisham; the Right Hon. C. St. John Lubbock, Liberal M.P. for the Ashburton Division of Devonshire; Sir Charles Bradley, late member of the Council of the Government of India; and Mr. Robert Jasper More, M.P. for the Ludlow division of Shropshire.

**CLARKE'S B 41 PILLS** are warranted to cure, in either sex, all acquired or constitutional, Die charges from the Urinary Organs, Gravel and Pains in the back. Free from Mercury. Estimated upwards of 30 years. In boxes of 6d. each, of all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World. Proprietors: THE LANCET, 10, MARK LANE, CORNER OF THE OLD LONDON ROAD, LONDON, E.C. 3.

Sir: I am afraid we shall have trouble with our agents after we are married. I don't mind that, dear, as long as I have you.

**Dangerous.**  
THE greatest danger from colds and influenza is their tendency to result in pneumonia. If reason is sensible, and Chamberlain's Cough Remedy taken, all danger will be avoided. It will cure a cold or an attack of influenza in less time than other treatment. Hoarseness in a child that is subject to croup is a sure indication of the approach of the disease. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough has appeared, it will prevent the attack. It always cures, and cures quickly. For sale by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors. WATKINS Ltd., General Agents.

**Dentistry.**  
S. IEN TING, Surgeon Dentist, No. 11, D'ARQUER STREET. TERMS VERY MODERATE. Consultation Free. Hongkong, April 21, 1900.

**DENTISTRY.**  
SUI SANG, Late Practising with Dr. I. SAKAI, DENTIST, Connaught Road, near Blake Pier. Hongkong, December 3, 1902.

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**  
THE Attention of Advertisers is drawn to the latest hours for receiving Advertisements and Corrections to Advertisements:—  
Alterations and additions to Advertisements on Pages 2, 3, 6 and 7, should be sent to this Office not later than 11 a.m. New Advertisements should be sent in before 1 p.m.  
RAIN & REID.  
CHINA MAIL Office, Dec. 1900.

## Intimations.

VICTORIA REGATTA.  
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY,  
16th and 17th December.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB request the pleasure of the Company of the Ladies of Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, the 16th and 17th December, at 1 p.m., on board the sailing ship *Brilliant*, which has been kindly placed at the disposal of the Committee as a Flagship by Capt. G. Cowlishaw.  
The Ladies' Prize will be presented by Miss Berkeley immediately after the Race on Thursday, the 17th inst., at 3.30 p.m. Through the courtesy of Mr. Dixon, the Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., the *Brilliant* will leave Blake Pier on each day at 12.30 p.m. and 1.15 p.m. to convey Visitors on board the Flagship, leaving the Flagship 10 minutes after the last Race on each day.  
By kind permission of Lt.-Col. W. S. Birdwood and Officers, the Band of the 10th Mahratta Light Infantry will perform each day.  
The Secretary's Launches will leave Blake Pier each day at 12 p.m. sharp to convey rowing members to the Flagship.  
Admission to the Flagship (Gentlemen) 50.00 each day.  
Tickets for Admission may be obtained from the Secretary, V.R.C.  
HAROLD C. AUSTEN, Secy. Hon. Secretary, V.R.C.  
Hongkong, December 10, 1903. 2489

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CHINA MAIL Office, Dec. 1900.

## Intimations.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

INFORMATION has been received from the MILITARY AUTHORITIES that the GUN PRACTICE will take place from Victoria Battery, Beldier Sub-district, on the 16th instant, and the residents within a radius of one mile of the Battery are hereby warned to keep the doors and windows of their houses open on that date to prevent damage to buildings.  
Practice will commence at 9 a.m. and end about 11 a.m. if the range is clear.  
By Command,  
A. M. THOMSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.  
Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, December 8, 1903. 2478

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

INFORMATION has been received from the MILITARY AUTHORITIES that the GUN PRACTICE will take place from Stonecutters Island (West, East and South shore Batteries) in a South-Westerly direction at ranges from 600 to 4,000 yards, on the 18th instant, and from Lygon (Re-doubt and Pak-sha-wan Batteries) in the direction of the entrance to Junk Bay at ranges from 1,000 to 4,000 yards, on the 19th instant.  
If the weather is unfavourable on either of those dates, Practice will take place on the 21st instant.  
Practice will commence at 9.30 a.m. on the 18th instant, and at 9 a.m. on the 19th instant, and end at 11 a.m. daily, if the range is clear.  
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Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, December 9, 1903. 2481

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## COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

FIRE—Marine—Typhoon—Accidents (special tourist forms)—Fidelity Guarantees—Plate Glass. Policies issued at current rates. W. H. T. DAVIS, Manager. Office hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 457

## JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

啟華中國日本荷蘭輪船公司  
REGULAR STEAMSHIP LINE FROM  
JAVA TO CHINA AND JAPAN,  
AND BACK.

THE HEAD AGENCY of the above Company has been OPENED at No. 3, DUNDRELL STREET.  
R. BISSCHOP, General Agent.  
Hongkong, October 6, 1903. 2052

## MINERAL ASSAYS &amp; ANALYSES.

THE YANETTE VALLEY COMPANY, LTD., having its own well-equipped Laboratory, is prepared, in order to assist in the Mineral Development of China, to do Assay work of all descriptions. Quantitative Analyses, and to classify minerals for Mine owners and others.  
Minerals as well as Minerals of Economic value purchased and consultations arranged by appointment.  
Terms moderate.  
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49, Shekuen Road.  
Cable Address:—“YANETTE,” Shanghai.  
5th October 1903. 2702

## G. FALCONER &amp; Co., WATCH-MAKERS AND JEWELLERS.

NEW SELECTIONS OF  
DIAMOND JEWELLERY AND ENGLISH SILVER WARE,  
HIGH-CLASS GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.  
LARGE ASSORTMENT OF SPECTACLES.  
PINC-NEZ AND EYE PRESERVES.  
FALCONER & Co. ARE AGENTS FOR ROSS'S FAMOUS TELESCOPES AND BINOCULARS, LORD KELLY'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, ADMIRAL'S CHARTS AND BOOKS.  
EASTMAN'S KODAKS AND FILMS.  
64, QUEEN'S ROAD.

## ENO'S A SIMPLE REMEDY

FOR ALL 'FRUIT IMPURITIES OF THE BLOOD. SALT!  
It is not too much to say that the merits of ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT' have been published, tested, and approved, literally from Pole to Pole, and that its cosmopolitan popularity to-day presents one of the most signal illustrations of commercial enterprise to be found in our trading records.—*European Mail*.  
CAUTION.—See Capsule marked ENO'S 'FRUIT SALT' without it you have a worthless imitation.  
Prepared only by J. C. ENO, Ltd., 'FRUIT SALT' WORKS, LONDON, ENG., by J. C. ENO'S Patent.  
Sold by Chemists, &c., everywhere.

## ZETLAND HOUSE.

No. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATION.  
Moderate Charges.  
MRS. WATLING, Proprietress.  
Hongkong, January 14, 1903. 26

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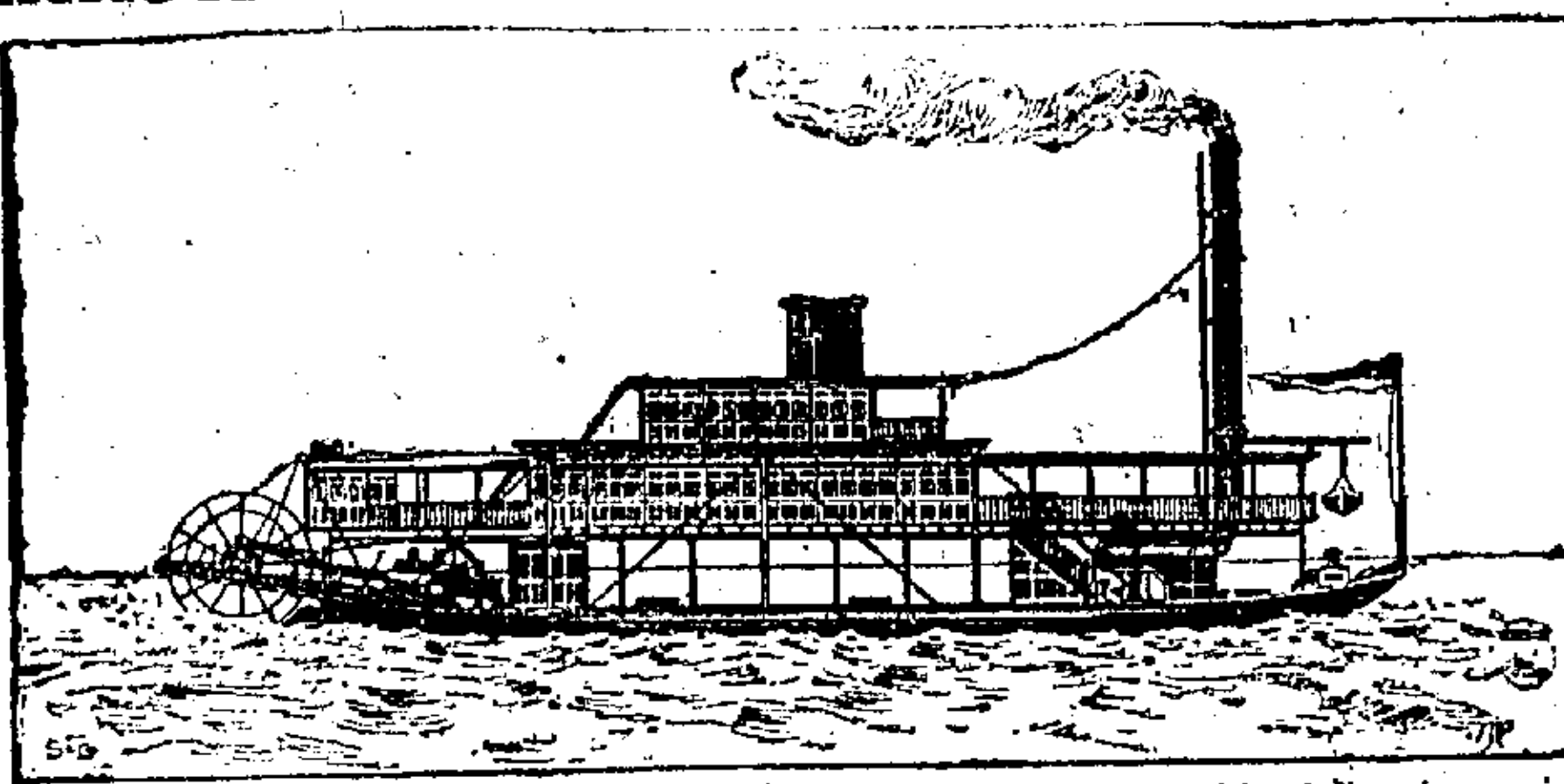
depends on delicacy of skin, which is conferred by 'DARTRING' 'LANOLINE'.  
No imitation can bear the 'Darting'.  
No imitation can be called 'Darting'.  
'DARTING' TOILET 'LANOLINE' is a complete toilet.  
'DARTING' 'LANOLINE' TOILET SOAP.

## A healthy child is naturally full of life.

His mother will tell you **Rainier Beer** did her a lot of good. It's pure ingredients. It's perfect brewing when used in moderation all tend to build up the system. Better try it yourself. **SEATTLE BREWING & MALTING CO. SEATTLE, WASH. PHONE RAINIER 30**

Per Case (6 dozen Pints, ..... ) \$16.50  
Special terms to large buyers (or 1 dozen Quarts, ..... )  
A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,  
Sole Agents for HONGKONG, CHINA AND MANILA.

## YARROW'S SHALLOW DRAFT STEAMERS.



STERNWHEEL STEAMERS have been found by experience to be the best type of vessel for shallow river navigation under many conditions of working, and of these Messrs. Yarrow have built a very large number of successful examples for all parts of the world.  
Vessels on this system are constructed when required, to draw as little as 10 inches.  
The construction of shallow river vessels propelled on various systems has been made the speciality of Messrs. Yarrow & Co., Ltd.  
For particulars apply to YARROW & CO., LTD., Shipbuilders, POPLAR, LONDON.

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**CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S LTD.**  
By Special Warrant Purveyors to His Majesty The King.  
**CELEBRATED OILMAN'S STORES.**

## DINNEFORD'S

The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Bilious Affections.  
The Physician's Cure for Gout, Rheumatic Gout and Gravel.  
Safest and most Gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and the Sick of Pregnancy.  
**DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA**

## THE CHINA LIGHT &amp; POWER COMPANY, LIMITED.

ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANTS NOW IN OPERATION IN CANTON AND KOWLOON.  
INCANDESCENT LAMPS, ARC LAMPS and NERNST LAMPS SUPPLIED.  
ESTIMATES MADE FOR ALL KINDS OF ELECTRICAL WORK AND SUPPLIES.  
Apply to—SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers.  
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## MELLIN'S FOOD

For INFANTS and INVALIDS.  
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MELLIN'S FOOD is free from Starch. When prepared is similar to Breast Milk.  
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Telegraphic Address:—“NETSUITS” (A.B.O. and A 1 Codes).  
CONTRACTORS OF COAL to the Imperial Japanese Navy and Armies and the State Railways; Principal Railway Companies and Industrial Works; Home and Foreign Mail and Freight Steamers.

SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Fens in Miike, Tagawa, Yamano, and Ida Coal Mines.  
SOLE AGENTS for Hokkaido, Honjo, Kanada, Fajin, Mameda, Mannono, Onuma, Otsaji, Sanchara, Teubakuro, Yoshinomi, Yoshio, Yushikawa, and other Coals.  
N. INUZUKA, Manager, Hongkong, 1119.  
Hongkong, April 28, 1903.

## OAKLEY'S

**WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH**  
**WELLINGTON SILVERSMITHS**  
**BLACK LEAD SOAP FOR CLEANING**

**WELLINGTON METAL POLISH**  
FOR CLEANING METAL PASTES  
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## WEEKLY NEWS FOR HOME.

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AND ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE (Commercial, Shipping, etc.)  
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A, WYNDHAM STREET, HONGKONG

## “THE BACK DOOR.”

THE Series of Articles entitled “THE BACK DOOR,” which appeared in the *China Mail*, have been reprinted, and may be obtained in Pamphlet Form. Price 1/-

## The Chinese Mail

THE LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

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Temporary Store,  
1st Floor,  
12, QUEEN'S ROAD.  
(above Messrs H. Price & Co.)

**Furniture  
Dealers.**

DRAWING-ROOM,  
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and BEDROOM  
FURNITURE.

ELECTRO-PLATED,  
GLASS and  
CHINA WARES.  
PASTEUR'S MICROBE-  
PROOF FILTERS,  
ROCHESTER LAMPS,  
WHITE TURKISH  
TOWELS and  
COUNTERPANES.

COOKING RANGES,  
KITCHEN UTENSILS,  
and HOUSEHOLD  
REQUISITES.

**WM. POWELL,**  
LIMITED.

Drapers and  
Dressmakers.

Grand  
**Xmas**

**Bazaar**  
NOW OPEN.

**Toys!  
Dolls!**

**ONE Thousand**

Gifts for Young and  
Old.

A Fine Selection of  
**High Class**

**Fancy**

**Leather**

**Goods**

Ask for our Illustrated List 1-1



**AYALA & CO'S**  
Extra Quality,  
Extra Dry,  
**CHAMPAGNE**

\$52.00 per Case Bottles.  
\$55.00 per Case Bottles.

SOLE AGENTS  
FOR  
Hongkong and the Philippines.  
**H. PRICE & CO.,**  
WINE MERCHANTS,  
12, Queen's Road Central.

**MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.**  
Miscellaneous.  
Goods per Benlmond undelivered after  
this date subject to rent.  
Goods per Sinda not cleared at 4 p.m.  
on this date subject to rent.

**MEMOS. FOR MONDAY.**  
Auction.  
2.30 p.m.—Auction of a Quantity of  
American and Scotch Whiskies, Sherry,  
&c., Mr Geo. at Lammer's Sales  
Rooms.  
Amusements.  
9 p.m.—A. D. C. Performance at the  
City Hall.

**Memoranda.**  
Goods per Bengary not cleared on this  
date subject to rent.

**General Memoranda.**

WEDNESDAY, December 10:—  
9 a.m.—Military Gun Practice.

THURSDAY, December 11:—  
Register of Shares of Humphreys' Estate  
& Finance Co., Ltd., close from this  
date to the 4th January, 1904, in-  
clusive.  
Goods per Kanchu undelivered after  
this date subject to rent.

FRIDAY, December 12:—  
9.30 a.m.—Military Gun Practice.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of a Fine Collection  
of Japanese Art Curios and Embla-  
mentaries, &c., at Mr Geo. Lammer's  
Sales Rooms.



**A. S. WATSON & CO.,**  
LIMITED.

IMPORTERS OF HIGH CLASS  
**SHERRY.**

**B. SUPERIOR PALE DRY.**  
Dinner Wine, Green Seal  
Capsule ... .. \$12.00

**C. MANZANILLA, PALE NA-  
TURAL SHERRY.** White  
Capsule ... .. 13.50

**CC. SUPERIOR OLD PALE  
DRY, NATURAL SHERRY.**  
Red Seal Capsule ... .. 16.00

**D. VERY SUPERIOR OLD  
PALE DRY.** Choice Old Wine,  
White Seal Capsule ... .. 18.00

**E. EXTRA SUPERIOR OLD  
PALE DRY.** Very Finest  
Quality, (old bottled), Black  
Seal Capsule ... .. 27.00

B, C, and CC are excellent Dinner wines,  
D and E are After-Dinner Wines of a very  
superior vintage. All are guaranteed pure  
Xeres wines.

Sample bottles and smaller quantities  
will be supplied at proportionate wholesale  
rates.

We only guarantee our wine and Spirits  
to be genuine when bought direct from us  
in the Colony or from our authorized  
Agents at the Coast Ports.

**A. S. WATSON & Co. Limited,**  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Established A.D. 1841.

December 12, 1903.

**BIRTHS.**  
On December 11th, at Stokes Bangkok,  
The Peak, Hongkong, the wife of the Rev.  
WALTER J. SOUTHWELL, of a Son.  
On November 21 the wife of JAMES  
BROWN, Assistant Government Printer,  
Kuala Lumpur, of a Son.  
On November 23 at Wells Hill, Kuala  
Lumpur, the wife of F. G. BARR, of a Son.  
On December 7, at Shanghai, the wife of  
D. W. CRAWFORD, of a Daughter.

**DEATHS.**  
At Klong Poo Yone Road, on the 23rd  
November, ISABEL MACLEOD GOUGH, wife  
of HARRY GOUGH, editor of *Siam*  
*Gazette*, Bangkok.  
At 'The Limes', Leicestershire, England,  
on the 13th Sept., ELLEN MAHON (Nellie),  
wife of Basil Holloway, and only surviving  
child of Mr and Mrs D. J. Collins, Siracha,  
Siam.

The publication of this issue commenced  
at 6.40 p.m.

**The China Mail.**

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1903.

SINCE the advance of winter has caused  
the demand for gas to be much greater  
than the sluggish and unprogressive gas  
company can possibly supply, people at  
their business places and in their  
private residences have been beset with  
difficulties and inconveniences sufficient  
to try the patience of a Job and the self-control of  
a Stoic. Not long ago, we went into  
the matter with the view of giving an  
idea of the cause or causes of the  
trouble, and then explained that the  
semi-moribund Directorate had awakened  
to the fact that for their own self-  
protection's sake they must better them-  
selves, and do something to alleviate  
the distress. We then said that new  
main pipes were being laid and pipes were  
being cleaned. Well, the new mains  
are being laid, but whether the pipes  
are being cleaned or not matters little,  
for there has been absolutely no material  
increase in the illuminating power of  
the gas supplied, although, from a cake  
tried on Thursday in the Supreme Court,  
there appears to have been, in quarters,  
a very large increase in the quantity  
of gas registered by the meters. How  
long this state of things is going  
to last is beyond comprehension,  
but it is certain that if it  
lasts much longer it will mean the  
partial ruin of many residents, both in  
business and private life. No one can  
afford to pay for a defective meter's  
franks, even if light with the power of  
radium is supplied, much less pay for  
them when gas far below the legal stan-  
dard is distributed; and no one can  
stand the loss of constant interruption  
to business owing to the lack of power  
to drive engines and supply the neces-  
sary light. Only so late as this morn-  
ing, one business man—a hairdresser  
adjoining the Connaught House Hotel  
—was compelled to close his shop.  
Customers who went there early had to  
turn away, finding on the door a placard  
announcing:

WORK STOPPED ON ACCOUNT OF NO LIGHT.

SOME MISTAKE FROM THE GAS.

To some, this may look like a piece  
of grim humour, but beneath it is the  
serious fact that while the gas is out  
the man is losing business, and the  
meter is probably continuing to merrily  
tick off the cubic feet that he never  
used. And then there is the probability  
that whereas the Gas Company will not  
compensate him for the loss he sustains,  
they will demand from him in the  
Court of law payment for that which he  
did not honestly receive—and get it.  
If it is consistent with British  
Justice that a company should receive  
payment for that which it did not  
deliver for the use of a customer, we  
fail to see it, and furthermore we fail  
to see how a corporation of men  
can conscientiously handle dividends  
which they know have not been de-  
rived by strictly honest means. The  
widow's mite is a great and benefi-  
cent agent when given in the inter-  
ests of charity, but when it is  
forced from her hands with the aid  
of the lover of the law it should  
become as a piece of molten lead in  
the hands of those who receive it.  
Something will have to be done soon,  
and if the Company do not do it the  
public will. Stagnation of business is  
bad enough when caused by general  
commercial depression, but when caused  
by the muddling of a monopoly it is  
worse.

**AN OPIUM HAIL.**

At the Magistrate's day before Mr  
J. L. Kemp, two men from the *Wai Pak*  
were charged with being in possession of  
opium totalling 26 tads of prepared and 244  
tads of raw opium. Fines of \$200, \$150,  
\$80, and \$10 were imposed, in default  
of imprisonment of from three  
months to three weeks.

**LOCAL AND GENERAL.**  
**Weather in November.**  
The rainfall during November was 1.09  
inches. The temperature ranged from  
46.7 on the 23rd to 86.5 on the 13th.

**Major-General Hatton.**  
His Excellency Major-General Villiers  
Hatton, C.B., the senior officer in Com-  
mand of His Majesty's Regular Troops,  
was duly sworn and took his seat as a  
member of the Executive Council on the  
9th inst.

**The Viceroy of the Two Kwang.**  
H.E. Tien Ch'ing-hsien, who has been  
seriously ill for the past month, intends to  
ask permission of the Throne to allow H.E.  
Chang Jen-chun, the new Governor of  
Kwangtung, to act in his stead for another  
month, and H.E. has accordingly telegraphed  
to Peking for the necessary permission,  
which will doubtless be accorded him.

**LOCAL AND GENERAL.**  
**Notes by the Way.**  
Singapore is suffering from an over-  
abundant rainfall.  
New version of an old song:—'The  
calendars are coming, Oh dear, Oh dear!'  
And an old saying—'Let 'em all come!'

A house boat containing thirteen  
Chinese captives on the Szechow creek on  
Dec. 7 and a hole had to be cut in the bot-  
tom of the boat to get them out. Four  
were drowned.

**Hongkong Christian Union.**  
The usual devotional meeting will be  
held on Monday evening, at 5.15, in the  
room of the Union, 13, Beconsfield  
Arcade. The Rev. P. Jenkins will pre-  
side. All are cordially invited.

**Most-Favoured-Nation Treatment.**  
The following announcement appears  
in the *Gazette*:—It is notified that a Com-  
mercial Convention between the United  
Kingdom and Persia was signed at Tehran  
on February 9 last and ratified on May  
27 last, under which most-favoured-nation  
treatment is secured to British Colonies so  
long as they severally do not withhold  
from Persia the same treatment as they  
accord to other Foreign Countries.

**Official Appointments.**  
The following appointments are gazet-  
ted:—  
Messrs Arthur G. M. Fletcher and  
Joseph J. Bullin have been appointed  
Deputy Registrars of Marriages.  
Mr Edwin R. Hallifax has been appoint-  
ed to act as Assistant Superintendent of  
the Fire Brigade.  
Mr R. A. B. Ponsonby has been ap-  
pointed Private Secretary to the Officer  
Administering the Government.  
Mr Cecil Clementi has been appointed a  
member of the Land Court.

**Where is Green Island Cement?**  
Regarding cement in the East, *Indian*  
*Engineering* says:—The question of obtain-  
ing a good and cheap cement is exercising  
Engineers in India and the East generally.  
Foreign competition, especially Belgian  
and German, is most feared by English and  
Indian manufacturers, for owing to cheap-  
ness of labour and high scientific attain-  
ments, which are the principal factors in the  
manufacture of the foreign article, it can be  
placed on the open market at a lower price  
and in the same quality as the English and  
local output. It therefore requires a very  
sturdy and indeed quixotic patriotism to  
reject foreign cement.

**Big Robbery from a Ship.**  
The Captain of the *Hong Wan*, which  
arrived at Singapore on Dec. 3 from Malacca,  
reported to the Police that at Malacca  
Mr Ong Kim Wee put \$8,000 on board the  
steamer for Singapore. Just before the  
vessel left the Captain had occasion to go to  
the safe and was astonished to find the  
money had disappeared. No one was allowed  
to leave the steamer, and on arrival at  
Singapore the Police detectives boarded the  
*Hong Wan* and after a search arrested eight  
Hylam passengers who had over \$8,000 in  
their boxes. The prisoners deny the theft,  
and allege the money belongs to them.  
The Police are investigating the affair.

**Football.**  
The *Amphitrite* and *Leviathan* football  
teams again engaged in a match at Happy  
Valley, but the result was the same as the  
match played last Tuesday—a draw. The  
game was evenly contested throughout,  
and brought out some fine play, both in  
defence and attack. Neither team were  
able to pierce the other's defence, and the  
game finished without score. The teams  
were:—*Amphitrite*: Sprout, goal; Parker  
and Haskins, backs; Peggs, Wright and  
Davison, halves; Kendrick, Connelly,  
Liley, Clarridge and Webster, forwards.  
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Jeffries, backs; Murphy, Kinch and  
Shooter, halves; Hall, Hutchings, McLaren,  
Oldham and Wiggins, forwards. Referee:  
Mr Lane, H.M.S. *Glory*.

**Consul-Generalship at Canton.**  
Mr C. W. Campbell, of the British  
Consular Service, who has just returned  
from furlough, relieves Mr James Scott as  
Consul-General at Canton. Mr Scott's  
health has been none of the best for the  
past year, and it is only by indomitable  
pluck that he has been able to stay at his  
responsible post during the past summer.  
Mr Scott goes on leave, sailing for Hong  
by the P. and O. steamer *Balkalund* on  
Saturday, the 19th inst., but it is highly  
probable that he will seek that rest and re-  
pose to which a long and arduous service in  
all parts of China fully entitles him. Since  
he took up the position of Consul-General  
at Canton, Mr Scott has proved him-  
self an active guardian of British interests.  
He has been in the closest relationship  
with this Colony through the Chamber of  
Commerce, which has found his co-opera-  
tion invaluable on several occasions. Al-  
though he is of a modest and retiring na-  
ture, we hope the leading commercial men  
in Hongkong will not let the opportunity  
pass of recognizing Mr Scott's services to  
commerce before his departure from the  
Colony.

**Have You Rheumatism?**  
If you hit your thumb with a hammer,  
would you swallow a lot of medicine to  
cure it? Not on your life. You would  
wrap it up with some soothing, healing  
remedy like Chamberlain's Pain Balm, and  
let nature do the rest. There is no more  
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rheumatism than there is for a bruised  
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**TELEGRAMS.**  
[CHINA MAIL'S EXCLUSIVE SERVICE.]  
**ENGLAND V. AUSTRALIA.**  
**AUSTRALIA'S FIRST INNINGS.**  
All Out for 285.  
(From Our Own Correspondent.)  
Sydney, December 12.  
The first test match between the  
cricket-teams representing England and  
Australia was commenced on the Sydney  
Cricket Ground yesterday in the pre-  
sence of a vast concourse of spectators.  
The weather was fine, and the wicket  
good.

The Australians won the toss, and  
went first to the wickets. They batted  
all day, and at the drawing of stumps  
had lost seven wickets for 259 runs.

Noble was not out with 132 runs  
to his credit.

On resuming this morning, the wicket  
was still good, and Noble only added  
one to his score when he was disposed  
of.

The other two wickets fell after 25  
runs had been added, making the  
Australian total 285.

The Englishmen then went into bat,  
the wicket remaining good.

Following are the double-figure  
scores made by the Australians:—

**AUSTRALIA—FIRST INNINGS.**

M. A. Noble ... .. 132  
W. Armstrong ... .. 48  
A. J. Hopkins ... .. 39  
S. K. Gregory ... .. 23  
Saunders ... .. 11  
Other batsmen and Sundries 31  
Total ... .. 285

**BOWLING.**  
The bowling of the Englishmen  
was good, the following being the  
analysis:—

**Something about the Players.**  
The English team in Australia at present  
is the sixth team that has left England to  
try and regain the 'ashes' which were lost  
in Australia by Mr Stoddard's team in  
1897-8. Since then Australia has been suc-  
cessful in retaining them, winning eleven  
out of the twenty test matches played since.  
England has only managed to place three  
to her credit and six were drawn—all in  
England.

The last two teams which visited Australia  
only won one test match each out of the five  
played each time, so that out of the last ten  
matches in Australia England has only won  
two. However, be that as it may, from the  
opening made by the present team in  
Australia, it seems likely enough that they  
will retrieve the lost position of English  
cricket.

When the present team left England the  
opinion was freely expressed that it was not  
representative, but as was the case with the  
last Australian team to visit England,  
which, also, was 'unrepresentative' when  
leaving Australia, a surprise may be sprung  
and a victorious tour result.

Taking the team individually attention  
is naturally directed to the Captain, Mr  
Percival Warner, who is a batsman of the  
solid, reliable type, and is a good field and  
a clever captain. He will set his men a  
good example by his keen folding and  
steady batting. Mr R. E. Foster was a  
brilliant batsman a few years ago, but of  
late has participated but little in county  
cricket. Should he strike form he will  
probably be the star of the team. Mr B.  
J. T. Bosanquet is both a batsman and a  
bowler. Last season his batting average  
was 34.50, and he captured 43 wickets at  
an average of 21 runs. As a cricketer Mr  
Bosanquet is an old hand, and has been  
very successful as a batsman in Australia  
twice, was very successful as a batsman in  
England, and has been a batsman in Aus-  
tralia. A. Knight is a batsman who  
scores centuries and over, but who generally  
succumbs by being caught at slips or  
wicket. He is a fine field at cover point,  
and a fearfully earnest cricketer. His over-  
all average last season was 45.85. G. Hines was  
picked as much for a batsman as for a bowler.  
Still great things are expected from him  
with the ball, as his 'average' is calculated  
to do severe damage to the Australian  
batsmen. As a batsman he is likely to  
knock up a score at any time. E. Arnold  
is a bowler who makes the ball turn quickly  
from the pitch and is likely to come off in  
Australia on the fast wicket. His bowling  
average last season was 17.44, while with  
the bat he averaged 20.44. Fielder and  
Hoff are both bowlers and on their selection  
different opinions were held. Fielder puts  
in some fast bowling, while Hoff has a  
swerve like Hirst. Both men bat well.  
The wicket-keepers will be A. Lilley and  
H. Strudwick, the former being one of the  
finest wicket-keepers in the world. Strud-  
wick has a reputation for extreme smart-  
ness behind the stumps, and is a sure catch.  
The team as a whole is strong in fielding,  
and have very good prospects of holding  
the Australians in check.

**TELEGRAMS.**  
[CHINA MAIL'S EXCLUSIVE SERVICE.]  
**RUSSIA AND JAPAN.**  
**THE MUSCOVITE'S REPLY.**  
London, December 11.  
Reuter's Tokio correspondent states  
that it is believed that Russia's reply  
to Japan will not be finally decisive, but  
will be sufficiently reasonable to allow  
of the resumption of negotiations with  
regard to minor details.

**SOMALI LEVIES MUTINY.**  
London, December 11.  
A report has reached Aden that  
the Somali levies—who some time ago  
were reported to be co-operating in the  
campaign against the Mullah—have  
mutinied and joined the Mullah's force.  
This report has not been confirmed  
from any other source.

**THEY JOIN THE MULLAH'S  
FORCE.**  
London, December 11.  
The Times Tokio correspondent wires  
that after the arrival of the Russian Squad-  
ron at Chonbulin, M. Pavlov accompanied by  
the Admiral had an audience with the  
Emperor, and it is believed renewed the  
protest against the opening of Yung mpho.  
It is declared that Japan is resolved not to  
yield an inch from her present moderate  
standpoint.

**LORD ROBERTS' RETIREMENT.**  
Lord Roberts denies the rumour of his  
impending retirement.

**OPENING OF THE JAPANESE  
DIET.**  
The Mikado, in opening the Diet, re-  
ferring to the situation, only said that his  
Ministers were now conducting with pru-  
dence and circumspection in important inter-  
national negotiations for the preservation  
of peace in the Far East and for Japan's  
rights and interests.

**WESLEYAN FOREIGN  
MISSIONS.**  
The Anniversary services of the Hong-  
kong branch of the Wesleyan Missionary  
Society are fixed for to-morrow and  
Monday.

On Sunday morning in St. Andrew's  
Hall at a quarter past ten o'clock the Rev.  
Dr. Noyes, of Canton, will be the preacher.  
All the other services will be held in the  
Soldiers' Home, Arsenal Street.

To-morrow afternoon at 3 p.m. a Mis-  
sionary address to children will be deliv-  
ered, and in the evening in the Home at 8  
p.m. the Rev. W. Bridie will preach.

On Monday evening at 6 p.m. there is to  
be a tea-meeting, followed by a public mis-  
sionary meeting at 7.30 p.m. Mr W. I.  
Anstey, R.N., will preside. Addresses will  
be given by Dr. Noyes, Miss Postler, of  
the Kowloon Blind School, and others.  
Collections in aid of the funds of the society  
will be taken up at all the services.

**The Whisky Trade.**  
The new season in the Scotch whisky  
distilling industry has just opened, and  
most of the existing 150 distilleries have  
begun working. During the last four or  
five years (says *The Standard*), the industry  
has passed through a period of great de-  
pression, following upon a series of years of  
unprecedented prosperity. The popularity  
of Scotch whisky as a beverage encouraged  
the building of new distilleries and the en-  
largement of old ones, and gave rise to a  
'boom,' which terminated so disastrously  
with the collapse of Patterson's (Limited).  
In six years the production rose from  
20,000,000 gallons to 35,750,000 gallons per  
annum, and the stocks in bond from  
65,500,000 gallons to 100,000,000 gallons.  
Since 1898-1899, when the high-water  
mark of the 'boom' was reached, the  
output has been gradually reduced, and  
the figures contained in the last Report  
of the Inland Revenue Commissioners were  
generally looked upon in trade circles as  
satisfactory. The beginning of the pre-  
sent season, therefore, is regarded as the  
turning point, and the prevailing depres-  
sion is expected to gradually give place to  
a return of the prosperity which the trade  
formerly enjoyed. Careful inquiries made  
in well-informed quarters go to show that,  
while the Highland distillers are confident  
of the approach of better times, the bond-  
ing orders so far booked are scarcely more  
numerous than last season, and the bleed-  
ing and distributing houses are apparently  
determined to give no encouragement to a  
resumption of the over-production. Short  
time will again be the rule at many dis-  
tilleries, and only the older established  
and better known concerns will be able to  
find an outlet for their full production.  
Prices are the same as before, though a  
determined effort has been made on the  
part of London houses to effect a 'cut.'















